

which rapidly became the economic centers of the New World. Now there are some 170 commercial seaports in this country, as well as numerous inland ports on our navigable inland waterways. The result has been the creation of a network of ocean and inland ports that includes many of the country's most important centers of industry, distribution, finance, and education.

Ports provide the vital link between land and water carriers. The port industry contributes enormously to the Nation's economy. It facilitates international trade, employs significant numbers of people, provides substantial personal and business incomes, and generates revenues for State and local governments.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, in order to remind Americans of the importance of the port industry of the United States to our national life, do hereby designate the seven calendar days beginning September 17, 1978, as "National Port Week." I invite the Governors of the several States, the chief officials of local governments, and the people of the United States to observe such week with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fifteenth day of September, 1978, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

Proclamation 4597

September 19, 1978

United Nations Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

The founding of the United Nations, on October 24, 1945, was an historic attempt to establish a framework for international cooperation.

The nations of the world now face such tasks as maintaining international peace and security; promoting basic human rights; building a better international economic order; and allocating fairly the globe's natural resources. The United Nations and its affiliated agencies bring together representatives of all nations to work together toward these goals. It holds out the vision of a truly cooperative world—a world at peace.

As one of its founding members, as its leading contributor, and as its host country, the United States feels a special pride in the Organization's accomplishments.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, do hereby designate Tuesday, October 24, 1978, as United Nations Day.

I have appointed Clifton C. Garvin, Jr., to be United States National Chairman for United Nations Day.

I urge Americans to become better acquainted with the institutions that make up the United Nations, to consider its role in addressing the problems of global interdependence, and to help it resolve the array of critical international issues that face us in these times.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this nineteenth day of September, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-eight, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and third.

JIMMY CARTER

EDITORIAL NOTE: The President's statement of Sept. 19, 1978, on signing Proclamation 4597, is printed in the Weekly Compilation of Presidential Documents (vol. 14, p. 1540).

Proclamation 4598

September 20, 1978

National Guard Day, 1978

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Three hundred and forty-two years ago, the First Militia Regiment of the Massachusetts Bay Colony was organized to enable the colonists to defend themselves and their settlement. That step toward citizen self-defense was the beginning of our National Guard, the oldest military organization in the United States.

Over those three centuries, names have changed—Militia, State Troops, State Volunteers, and, finally, the National Guard—but the spirit of the citizen-soldier has been constant. It is exemplified by those who stand prepared to leave their civilian occupations, don the uniform of their Country, and serve their States and their Nation when the need arises.

In time of war, the Guard is always ready to serve. At King's Mountain, the Meuse-Argonne, Bataan, Omaha Beach, and the Iron Triangle, during the Berlin Airlift and Vietnam, the Guard has served in every major conflict in which this country has engaged.

When disaster strikes in time of peace, the Guard is equally ready to serve—as it has, in recent years, at Johnstown, Texas City, and in the wake of Hurricane Agnes.

In recognition of the debt of gratitude owed by the people of the United States to those who serve as members of the National Guard, the Congress has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation designating October 7, 1978, as National Guard Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIMMY CARTER, President of the United States of America, ask all Americans to celebrate Saturday, October 7, 1978, as National Guard Day and to honor the Army and Air National Guard of the United States for service to their communities, to their States and to their Nation.